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JAMES D. BURNS



THE *Rainbow*  
KNOWN THE WORLD OVER



*Gardens*  
FOR FINE DAHLIAS

CATALOG FOR  
1947

P. O. BOX 157  
GARFIELD STREET  
*North Bellmore N.Y.*

### **THE BIG FOUR COLLECTION**

Has proven so popular in the past that we again offer it this year. A collection of four outstanding varieties in rooted cuttings. This year the Big Four consists of one rooted cutting each of Five Star General, Mrs. E. J., Kilgore's Sensation, and Jane Lausche, four varieties that proved so successful the past season. An \$8.30 value for only \$5.25 net. In ordering just ask for the Big Four.



### **DAHLIA SEED**

There is no thrill in growing dahlias that can compare with raising your own from seed. The possibility exists that you may be lucky enough to originate a far better dahlia than any other on the market today. We offer seed produced in California, and taken from large exhibition type dahlias only. They will flower and produce a clump of roots the first season.

**20 seed, \$1.00    50 seed, \$2.50    100 seed, \$5.00**

# Greetings



At the start of another season, (our seventeenth) we send to you with this catalog, our best wishes for a happy and prosperous year.

We have just completed our most successful year in business. Primarily we are cut flower growers, the bulk of our blooms being sent to the very critical New York City cut flower market and we point with pride that our dahlias command Premium prices in the market at all times throughout the season and are eagerly sought after and purchased by the leading Floral shops in New York.

In reading through our catalog you will find listed a large number of exhibition dahlia varieties. These exhibition varieties ARE NOT GROWN FOR CUT FLOWERS but solely for root and plant sales. They are not forced but allowed to grow naturally, with the proper fertilization, irrigation, and insect control in order to produce the most vigorous roots and plants. The splendid results our customers of exhibition stock have, are more than gratifying and our ever increasing sales shows the wisdom of our policy.

You will also note that we have eliminated potted green plant sales in favor of rooted cuttings, as we find that anybody with the slightest fundamentals of gardening can have the same success with rooted cuttings as they can with potted plants. Even those of you gardening for the first time will be successful by following a few simple directions that you will find listed under "Hints on Successful Dahlia Culture" on pages 15 and 16 of this catalog.

In closing we would like to take this opportunity to extend to you an invitation to visit us at our new location, here in North Bellmore. Visitors are always welcome at any time throughout the year.

Cordially,

THE RAINBOW GARDENS  
James D. Burns



# European Novelties for 1947



The dahlias listed below represent some of the best introductions coming from Europe since before the War. They have all the fine characteristics common with the foreign dahlia, long, slender, rigid stems, excellent flower formation and beautiful color. We believe they are worthy of a place in our American Gardens and are sure they will take more than their share of prizes in the Show Room.

	Rooted Cutting
ARISTOS—S. C.—Violet red, tipped white .....	\$1.50
* BABY FONTENEAU—I. D.—Deep rose pink .....	1.50
* BERGERS MEISTERSTUCK—I. C.—Pink .....	.75 Net
* BRIGITTE WERNER—S. C.—Bright deep pink .....	1.50
BRIOSO—S. C.—Scarlet with white tips .....	1.00
CHAMPION DE WARCHIN—I. D.— Deep red .....	1.50
* CINNAMON BEAUTY—I. D.—Mikado orange and mallow pink .....	3.00
* CONQUEROR—S. C.—Yellow .....	1.50
DIAMANT—F. D.—Coppery red .....	1.50
DIUNDIGT—S. C.—Orange .....	.75 Net
GERRIE HOEK—F. D.—Light Pink .....	.75 Net
* GOLDEN LEADER—F. D.—Ochre and gold .....	2.00
HERMA BERGER—S. C.—Deep pink .....	1.50
INSPECTEUR VAN DE PLASSCHE—I. D.—Carmine with white tips .....	1.50
MADAME HENRI DECAULT—I. D.—Amber and Pink .....	1.50
MAHARADJA—I. D.—Dark chestnut red .....	1.00
* MEVROUW JONKHEER SANDBURG—C.—Ruby red ..	3.00
* MOTHER BALLEGO—S. C.—Sparkling bright red ....	1.00
* ORANJEPRINS—C.—Pure orange .....	1.50
ORANJE TRIOMF—F. D.—Orange Formal .....	1.00
PFARRER ROJEK—I. D.—Yellow, splashed violet ....	1.00
* PRINSES BEATRIX—F. D.—Orange with white tips ..	1.25
* ROMANCE—S. C.—Salmon pink and yellow .....	3.50
* SAINT THERESE—C.—Light pink .....	.75 Net
SHEIK—S. C.—Lilac purple .....	1.00
SEIMEN DOORENBOS—Anemone—Magenta and white ..	1.50
SIR HENRY DETERDING—C.—Pure yellow .....	1.50
THEEROOS—I. D.—Apricot and yellow .....	1.50
* VICTORY DAY—S. C.—Enormous flowers of berry red	5.00
* Highly recommended.	

## American Novelties for 1947



**EXPRESSION**—F. D. (Dixie Nurseries) Very pale pink, heavily bordered deep rose on the outer half of petals. An early, free bloomer of 6 x 4 inch flowers on good stems.

R. C. \$2.35

**LITTLE SHIEK**—Min. S. C. to Min. C. (Frank's) A Miniature bi-color of rose red and white. White section of the petals runs lengthwise. Blooms  $3\frac{1}{4}$  x 2 inches with wiry stems. Bush height 3 feet.

R. C. \$1.65

**MICHIGAN ORCHID**—F. D. (Keiser) A robust grower of 7 to 10 inch blooms on long strong stems. Basic color, Mallow Rose. Certified at East Lansing in 1944.

R. C. \$3.35

**SILVER METEOR**—F. D. (Wolfe) Mauve with silver lines and silver reverse. A new color in dahlias. Blooms of 9 x 6 inches are held facing to 45 degree angle on good long stems. Plant height about 5 feet tall. An early midseason bloomer.

R. C. \$3.35

**SYMPHONY**—S. C. (Frank's) Center of bloom is a bright rose red fading down to a pastel when the petals are fully opened. The petals for about one-half their length are light lemon yellow. Blooms are from 5 to 7 inches. Much admired.

R. C. \$2.50

# Recent Introductions and Standard Varieties of Merit



**ALBERT KILGORE**—I. D. to S. C.—A beautiful shade of Thulite pink with lemon yellow at base of petals. Back of petals tyrian rose which makes its coloring very unusual. The bush grows six ft. high, branches well, with leathery foliage. Flowering habits prolific with heavy stiff stems.

Root \$5.00 Rooted Cutting \$1.50

**ALL AMERICAN**—S. C.—Immense size. Mulberry rose suffused salmon with yellow at base of petals.

R. C. \$.60

**AXFORD TRIUMPH**—I. D.—An Australian variety that can be grown to 13 inches. General color effect is tan.

R. C. \$1.00

**BESS SMITH**—I. D.—A beautiful large white with a creamy center. Strong grower with good stems and keeps well when cut.

R. C. \$.75

**BILL'S GOLD**—I. D.—Very large blooms of gold. Plants of medium height with strong stems. Has won many prizes.

R. C. \$1.00

**BILL'S SPLENDOR**—I. D.—Ten inch blooms of Luminous rose pink. An early profuse bloomer on long strong stems.

R. C. \$1.25

**BLACK MONARCH**—S. C.—A very dark glistening blackish red that can be grown to 12 inches on exceptionally long and strong stems. Foliage is tough and heavy.

R. C. \$1.00

**CARL DAHL**—I. D.—A great favorite. Huge blooms of apricot buff with a rose reverse. Has won many prizes as the largest flower in the show.

R. C. \$.60

**CHEROKEE BRAVE**—I. D.—Large deep blooms of ox-blood red. Blooms freely throughout the season with good stems and foliage.

Root \$1.00 3 For \$2.50

**CROWNING GLORY**—I. C.—An outstanding dahlia of rose pink with a cream center. Bush attains height of six feet and has good foliage. Very outstanding.

R. C. \$1.00

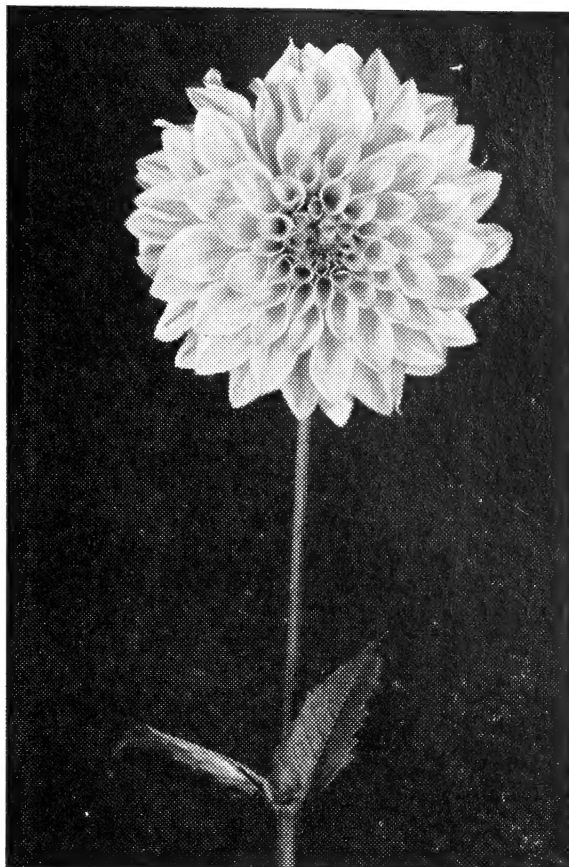
**CROYDON ACME**—F. D.—One of the largest of its color. Plants are strong growers producing blooms of lavender on excellent stems.

R. C. \$.90

**D-DAY**—F. D.—An outstanding cut flower dahlia of true pink. Plants are tall open growers producing well formed blooms with excellent keeping qualities.

Root \$2.50 R. C. \$1.25





"D-DAY"

**DELTA**—F. D.—A massive Australian dahlia of magenta-rose. Rugged grower.

R. C. \$.75

**DEUIL DU ROI ALBERT**—F. D.—This outstanding dahlia is purple tipped white.

Root \$1.50 3 For \$3.75

**DIXIE'S WINE DOT**—I. D.—Blooms average 10 to 12 inches of clear white splashed with wine red.

R. C. \$.75

**ESSIE SMITH**—S. C.—Awarded two Achievement Medals in addition to being on all the Honor Rolls. Color amaranth pink and blooms have been grown 13 1/2 in. x 10 in. facing to up, on strong cane-like stems well up out of the bush. Insect resisting plants grow 4 to 6 ft. tall.

R. C. \$.75

**FARNCOT**—I. C.—An old favorite of deep purple tipped pure white.

R. C. \$.60

**FIVE STAR GENERAL**—F. D. A. (Ramage-Ruschmohr) A formal decorative blend of 11 1/2 to 13 inches. Color amaranth pink, blushing into a tyrian pink and then going into a maize yellow toward the center of the bloom. Sturdy plants growing about 6 ft. tall with excellent foliage. Listed on 3 Honor Rolls.

Root \$7.50 R. C. \$2.50

**HILDA FIORETTI**—S. C.—Early and prolific. Pink blooms cover healthy bushes on long straight stems.

Root \$1.50 R. C. \$.75

**IKE**—F. D.—Profuse bloomer of blood red averaging 3 1/2 in. to 5 in. in diameter. Petals are lacinated. An excellent cut flower with good substance.

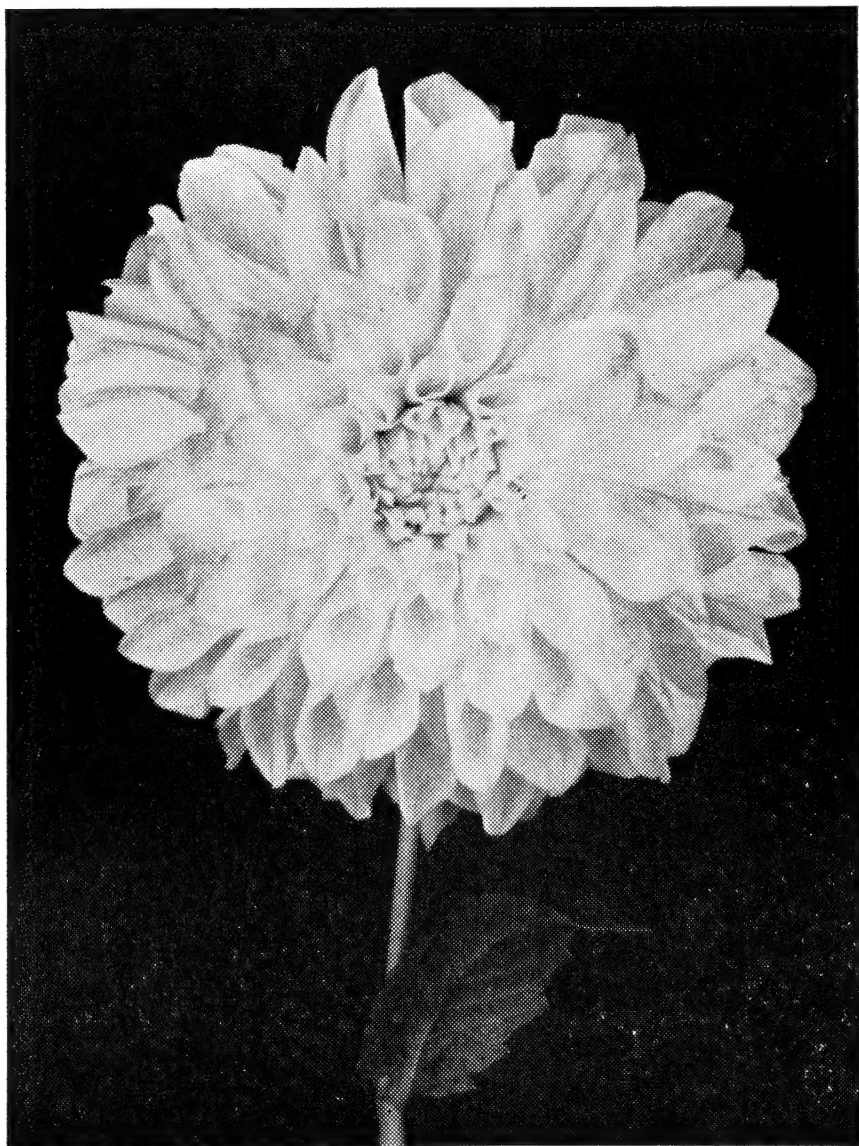
Root \$2.50 R. C. \$1.00

**JAMES ROSS**—I. D.—Large flowers of reddish purple. Strong grower with good stems and foliage.

R. C. \$1.00

**JANE LAUSCHE**—S. C.—New color combination of rosy-mauve tipped white. Blooms up to 12 inches. One of the earliest and freest bloomers of large flowered varieties. Good stems and slender canes permit long stem cutting. Plants are fast growing with foliage of medium texture. Winner of Achievement Medals at Cleveland, Milwaukee and Louisville. On all the Honor Rolls.

Root \$5.00 R. C. \$1.65



"THE REAL GLORY"

**KELVIN**—I. D.—Giant blooms of buff suffused carmine rose. General color effect, peach pink. Strong healthy plants with very heavy foliage.

R. C. \$1.25

**KILGORE'S SENSATION**—S. C. (Kilgore) A beautiful white semi-cactus, size 10 x 6 inches. Pointed petals, plant height 6 feet. branches readily, stems long, straight and strong with heavy foliage. Certificate of Merit at Storrs, Conn., 1944.

Root \$7.50 R. C. \$2.50

**LAETARE**—S. C.—Color, soft red shading to gold at tips of petals. Good stems and fine flowering habits.

Root \$1.00 Net

**LEAH PEARL**—F. D.—Medium sized blooms of light pink and cream.. Excellent for cutting.

Root \$.75

**LINKS SENSATION**—S. C.—Buff and scarlet, general appearance orange. Reverse of petals is bittersweet orange which shows on the face of the flower as the petals twist. Strong grower and a free bloomer.

R. C. \$1.50

**LITTLE SISTER**—M. I. D.—Lacinated petals. Color maroon tipped white. A good keeper with good stems and sturdy grower.

Root \$2.00 R. C. \$.80

**LORD OF AUTUMN**—I. D.—Twelve inch blooms of deep clear yellow. Regarded by some as an erratic grower, but we have good stock.

R. C. \$.75

**LYNN FONTANNE**—S. C.—Massive blooms with strong straight stems. Color is spectrum red with chrome yellow petaloids throughout the flower. Strong grower with excellent stems. Keeps well when cut.

R. C. \$.75

**MAFFIE**—S. C.—Massive blooms of lively carmine on the best of stems. Many times a prize winner.

Root \$1.50 R. C. \$.80

**MARJORIE ROBERTS**—I. D.—A large pure white. Fine grower with excellent stems.

R. C. \$.75

**MARION SMITH**—I. D.—One of the best of the Australian varieties. Large blooms of Tyrian pink overlaid mallow pink. Strong erect stems.

R. C. \$.75

**MICHIGAN WHITE**—S. C.—The greatest of all white cut flower dahlias. Has very good quality.

Root \$1.00 3 For \$2.50

# Personality *Dahlias*

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## *Our Introduction For 1947*



**"SEPTEMBER"**  
(Specimen Bloom)

### **"SEPTEMBER"**

A beautiful informal decorative blend of the ever appealing Autumn shades, deep chrome speckled peach red; reverse peach red. Fast open grower with strong erect stems, 6 to 19 inches long, producing many 7 to 10 inch flowers from July until frost, always with tight centers. Keeps very well when cut.

Shown only once at the 1944 New York A. D. S. Show "SEPTEMBER" received a Special Award of a Bronze Medal Certificate. On the Eastern and Far West Honor Rolls.

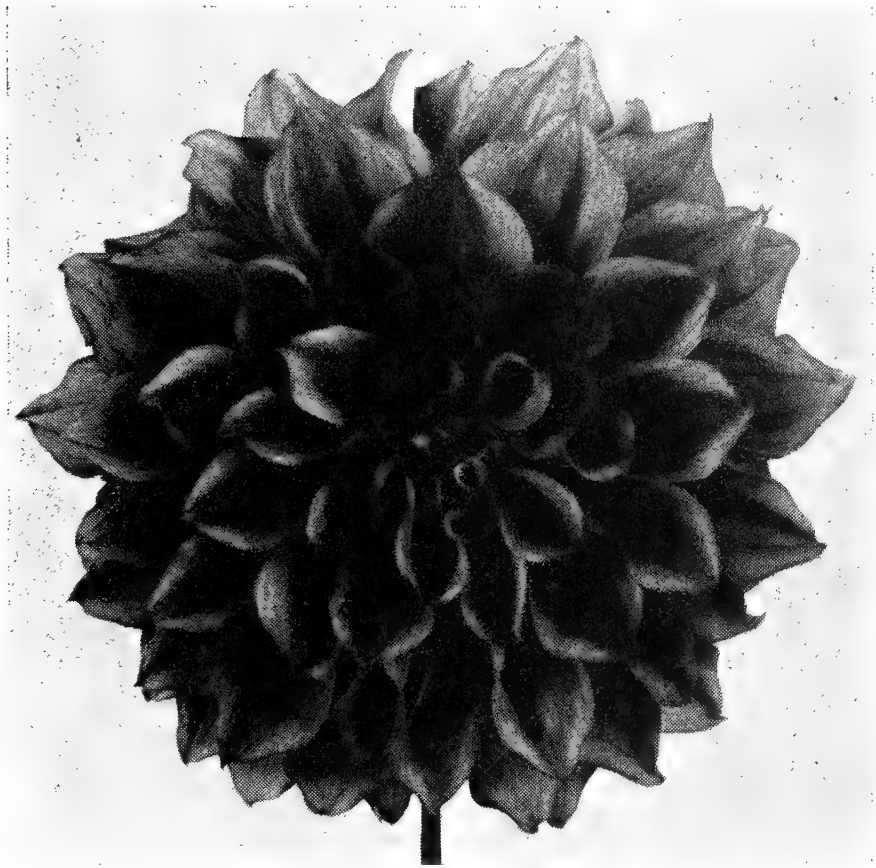
**Root \$10.00 Net**

**Rooted Cutting \$3.35 Net**

# offered by *Rainbow*

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## *Our Introduction For 1946*



**"SATAN'S DISCIPLE"**

(Specimen Bloom)

### **"SATAN'S DISCIPLE"**

Pre-introduced last season we have received favorable comments from all sections of the country. A recent report from Col. Eddy in California states that again this year "Satan's Disciple" is one of the best and showiest in his garden. A scarlet red that can be grown 12 inches without coddling.

Flowering habit good, stems to 14 inches. medium to extra heavy. Foliage tough, heavy and insect resisting. Has won for two consecutive years as the best bloom in the show, at Kingston, Pa., with blooms well over 12 inches. On the Eastern and Far West Honor Rolls. Root stock still very limited.

**Root \$15.00 Net**

**Rooted Cutting \$5.00**





"SEPTEMBER"

**MME. C. JUSSIANT**—I. C.—A variety from France that is very popular with exhibitors. Color, lavender.

R. C. \$.60

**MRS. ANNA KLINE**—I. D. to S. C.—A beautiful canary yellow dahlia of great merit. Produces many 10 in. by 5 in. blooms on long thick rigid stems. Bush growth ideal.

R. C. \$.75

**MRS. E. J.**—St. C. (Rocky River) Clear brilliant pink with white at centers and very lightly tipped white. Exceptionally good substance. Flower size 6 x 4 in. An Honor Roll dahlia certified at three Trial Gardens.

Root \$5.00 R. C. \$1.65

**OGDEN REID**—F. D.—Spinel pink blended with rose pink and striping of promuline yellow, center deep rose. Very large blooms, 12 1/2 by 6 1/4 inches and larger. Canelike stems up to 15 inches.

R. C. \$1.65





"DEUIL DU ROI ALBERT"

**ORANGE FLAME**—F. D.—Medium size blooms of brilliant orange on strong stems. Excellent as a cut flower and good for exhibition.

R. C. \$.90

**PENN STAR**—F. D.—Medium size blooms of rhodamine purple tipped white. Attractive flowers that keep well when cut.

R. C. \$.60

**PINK FLAMINGO**—C.—A beautiful pink cactus on excellent stems. Blooms of 10 x 5 inches are produced very freely.

R. C. \$1.50

**PYGMALION**—S. C.—A Holland variety of merit. Color is orange tan suffused peach. Strong grower with fine stems.

R. C. \$.75

**RADAR**—I. D.—Base of petals lemon yellow shading to bright red. Petals are flushed and edged gold, with gold reverse. Attractive blooms are large and are held erect on strong stems.

R. C. \$1.25

**RHYTHM**—I. C.—An exquisite 8 inch dahlia of cameo or shrimp pink with tips of petals double serrated. Suffusions of soft rose with lemon shadings at the base of the petals and center of flower make it most unusual.

R. C. \$.80

**ROSELYN STRAIGHT**—S. C.—Apricot yellow shaded and streaked scarlet red. Early and prolific bloomer on the best of stems.

R. C. \$1.00

**SHANGRI-LA**—F. D.—A strikingly beautiful yellow dahlia deeper in color than Lord of Autumn. Plenty of 6 in. x 3 in. blooms poised beautifully on straight stiff wiry stems. Artistic holly green, heavy insect resisting foliage. Has won many prizes.

Root \$2.50 R. C. \$1.00

**SHERWOOD'S PEACH**—I. D.—Massive blooms of ochreous buff on cane like stems. Strong grower.

R. C. \$1.00

**SNOWBALL**—St. C.—One of the best white cactus dahlias for exhibition. Robust grower with excellent stems.

R. C. \$.60

**SOPHIE K. HEINTZ**—St. C.—The outer rows of petals are carmine rose tipped yellow, with the centers of the flower lemon yellow. Medium size blooms are held facing on long stems. Beautiful color combination.

R. C. \$1.25

**STRAIGHT'S WHITE**—I. D.—Large blooms of pure glistening white. Petals roll and twist artistically. Strong grower with good stems.

R. C. \$.80



“SHANGRI-LA

**SYDNEY**—I. D.—Large blooms of rose pink tinged gold throughout the petals. Strong rigid stems.

R. C. \$1.00

**TARAWA**—S. C.—An immense flower of red-purple on bushes of medium height. Certified at East Lansing where blooms measured 11 1/2 by 7 inches. An excellent variety.

R. C. \$.75

**THE REAL GLORY**—F. D.—A top notch pure white dahlia. Free bloomer on strong healthy bush. Good keeper.

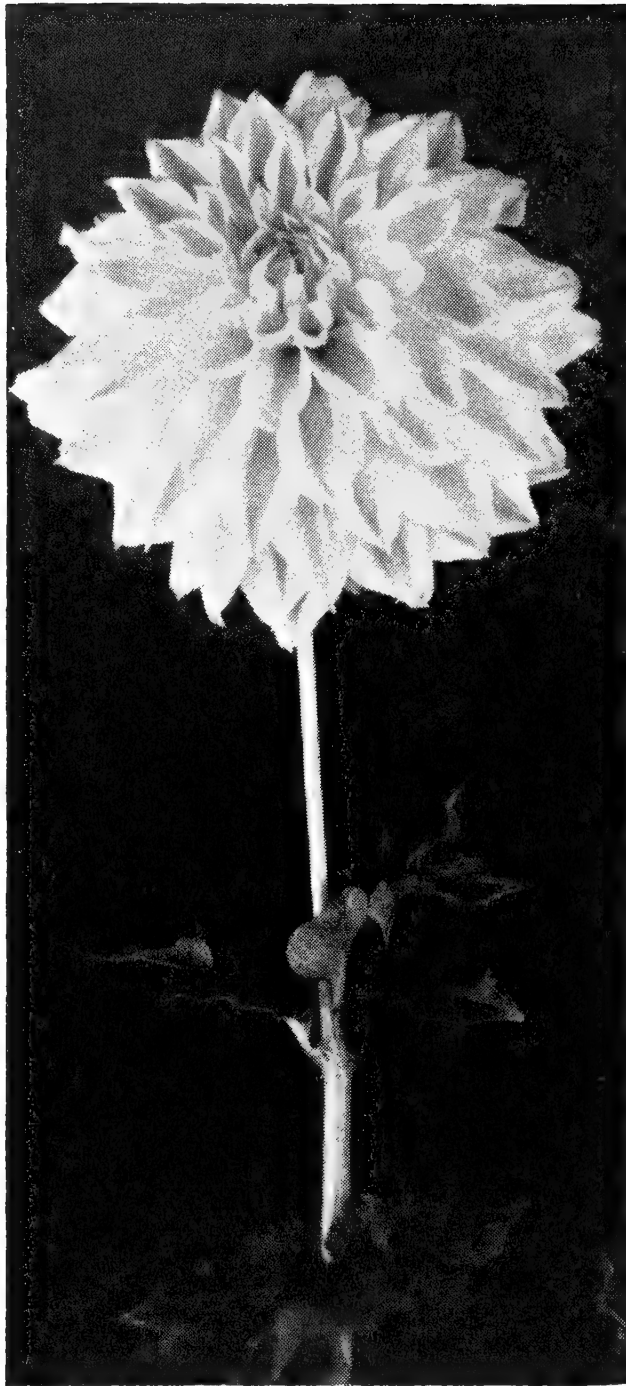
Root \$2.00 R. C. \$.75

**TOP FLIGHT**—S. C.—Eleven inch bright blood red blooms of perfect formation. Vigorous grower.

R. C. \$.75

**V-DAY**—S. C.—A seedling of Carl Dahl, having the same long leaves and substance of bloom. Brilliant dark rose which authorities say that to date there is no other dahlia of this color.

R. C. \$1.00



**"SHANGRI-LA"**  
(Specimen Bloom)

**VICTORY**—F. D.—Rose-pink, suffused gold. Keeping qualities are ideal and the stem and foliage excellent.

Root \$1.00 3 For \$2.50

**WHITE CHRISTMAS**—F. D. to I. D.—Vigorous grower with heavy insect resisting foliage. 10 inch blooms of white with grand stems are produced freely. Keeps very well when cut.

R. C. \$.90

**YELLOW GLORY**—S. C.—A very attractive large lemon yellow semi-cactus with petals that curl and twist.

R. C. \$.75

**YOUR LUCKY STAR**—S. C.—Amaranth pink with a white center. Very popular.

Root \$1.50



# Hints On Successful Dahlia Culture



**TIME**—The proper time for the planting of dahlias in this latitude is from May 1st until June 15th. For exhibition purposes we recommend planting about June 10th.

**SOIL**—Good dahlias can be grown in almost any kind of soil. Plant in a sunny location. Prepare soil by deep spading or plowing. The ideal soil for Dahlias is a light friable loam, so if your soil is very sandy add plenty of humus, if heavy add sand or ashes and humus.

**PLANTING OF ROOTS**—Scoop out soil about six inches deep. Drive a stake at edge of hole to support plant in the latter stages of its growth, particularly when in flower. Lay root flat in hole with the eye upward and cover with two inches of finely pulverized soil, gradually filling in the hole to level with the ground, as the plant grows.

**ROOTED CUTTINGS**—Our rooted cuttings are taken from selected root stock that has been grown cool in sterilized soil in a greenhouse where the most rigid sanitary precautions are enforced. They are rooted in sterile sand and for shipment are individually wrapped in sphagnum moss. They can either be potted up in 3 inch pots for latter plantings or planted directly out in your garden, without removing the moss or disturbing the roots. From there on the culture is the same as it is for potted plants.

**PLANTING OF GREEN PLANTS**—When your plants are received remove from package and soak for a few minutes in enough water to cover the paper pots, in order to freshen the plants after their journey. Set out plants in the evening or on a cloudy day after removing plant from pot. Preparation of soil for plants are the same as for roots. Shading potted plants for the first few days after planting during the warmest part of the day is advised.

**CULTIVATION**—Cultivating the soil between the plants will prove very beneficial in controlling weeds and conserving moisture. As the plants grow larger, cultivation should be shallower in order not to destroy the surface feeder roots.

**WATERING**—During prolonged draughts water thoroughly every week or ten days as needed. To control red spider spray the plants forcibly with water paying particular attention to the under side of the leaves.

**INSECTS**—A weekly spraying with some good insecticide from the time your plants are a few inches high will usually control injurious insects.

**DISBUDDING**—For the best flowers and stems disbudding must be practiced. When the plants appear leave only one stalk. After three sets of leaves have formed pinch out the center of the plant. Very shortly at the base of the leaves laterals or suckers will appear. In time, they will be the branch, stem and flower. As these branches develop a cluster of buds will appear on the top of the branch. Remove all but the terminal bud. Lateral or sucker growths below this cluster of buds should also be removed, leaving two or four sets of laterals to develop into new flowering branches.

**FERTILIZATION**—An application of a low nitrogen (About 2 per cent) but high phosphate rate fertilizer beneath the root or plant at planting time should maintain the plant until buds appear. At that time a handful of good potato fertilizer (4-8-8) should be placed around the plant, but not touching it and raked into the soil. Cow or horse manure spread over the garden in the fall after the dahlias are dug will greatly increase the productiveness. Rye or some other good cover crop planted in the fall will also be very beneficial.

**DIGGING & STORAGE**—By November 1st even if frost has not killed the tops of your plants the roots should be dug and stored for the winter. Care must be taken not to strain or break the necks of the root. Cut stalks to within 2 inches of the root and store in a cool cellar in boxes lined thickly with newspaper. Dry sand covering the roots will aid in bringing them safely through the winter.

If your present method of storage is satisfactory disregard the above as every cellar presents its own problem and a method that would apply to one person would prove very unsatisfactory to another. In the Spring when the eyes show plainly divide the roots with a sharp knife or pruning shears making sure that every division has one or more eyes.



## How to Order

Please Read Carefully

### ORDER EARLY

We ask that you forward your order as early as possible as the demand for some varieties exceeds the supply. Please do not expect immediate delivery on orders sent to us at the height of our shipping seasons as orders previously booked for shipment during these periods will receive priority. All shipments are made in the order they are received.

### TERMS

Remittances with order, by Money Order, Check, or cash by REGISTERED MAIL.

### POSTAGE

Although we pay all regular postage on retail orders, orders for Rooted cuttings must include 25 cents to cover Special Delivery charges. In the event there is no Special Delivery Service at your Post Office, 15 cents must be included for Special Handling charges. WE CANNOT GUARANTEE SAFE DELIVERY ON ROOTED CUTTINGS unless shipped with either of the Special Services stated above.

### SUBSTITUTIONS

We do not substitute unless instructed to do so and will notify you if unable to supply any variety. If you desire a second or third choice please advise us when ordering.

### OUR GUARANTEE

We guarantee that our roots, plants and rooted cuttings are true to name, free from disease, and to grow and bloom if properly cared for. Any proving otherwise will be replaced.

Quotations in this catalog are for A1 quality stock and are as low in price as is consistent with good service, liberal replacement policies, worthwhile extras, and the supply of the variety.



TELEPHONE WANTAGH 1340-W



**ABBREVIATIONS INDICATING CLASSIFICATION**

F. D.	-----	Formal Decorative
I. D.	-----	Informal Decorative
S. C.	-----	Semi-Cactus
St. C.	-----	Straight Cactus
I. C.	-----	Incurved Cactus
M. F. D.	-----	Miniature Formal Decorative
M. I. D.	-----	Miniature Informal Decorative
M. S. C.	-----	Miniature Semi-Cactus
M. C.	-----	Miniature Cactus
M. P.	-----	Miniature Peony
S	-----	Single

